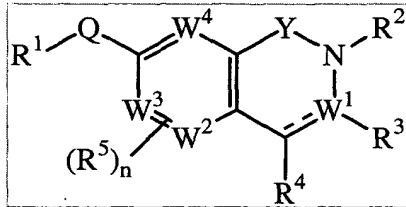


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5

1. A compound of Formula I



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein:

10 R<sup>1</sup> is independently selected from:

C<sub>5</sub> or C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted C<sub>5</sub> or C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> bicycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> bicycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

15 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

20 Phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Naphthyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted naphthyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

25 Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Phenyl;

Substituted phenyl;

30 Naphthyl;

Substituted naphthyl;  
5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;  
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;  
8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl; and  
5 Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl;

$R^2$  is independently selected from:

H;  
 $C_1\text{-}C_6$  alkyl;  
Phenyl-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
10 Substituted phenyl-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
Naphthyl-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
Substituted naphthyl-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
15 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
Phenyl-O-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
Substituted phenyl-O-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
Phenyl-S-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
20 Substituted phenyl-S-( $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylenyl);  
Phenyl-S(O)-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);  
Substituted phenyl-S(O)-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);  
Phenyl-S(O)<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl); and  
Substituted phenyl-S(O)<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);  
25 Each substituted  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  group contains from 1 to 4 substituents, each  
independently on a carbon or nitrogen atom, independently  
selected from:  
 $C_1\text{-}C_6$  alkyl;  
CN;  
30 CF<sub>3</sub>;  
HO;  
( $C_1\text{-}C_6$  alkyl)-O;  
( $C_1\text{-}C_6$  alkyl)-S(O)<sub>2</sub>;

H<sub>2</sub>N;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-N(H);  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)<sub>2</sub>-N;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-C(O)O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl)<sub>m</sub>;

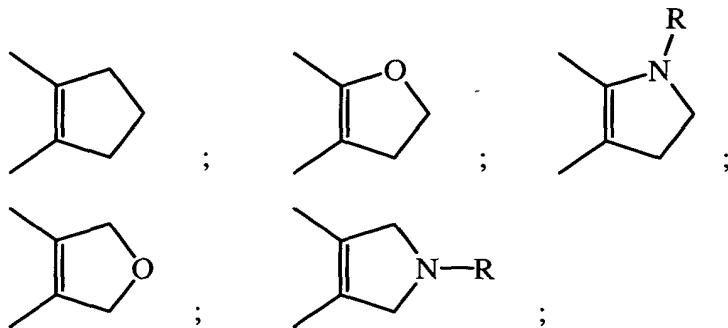
5 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-C(O)O-(1- to 8-membered heteroalkylenyl)<sub>m</sub>;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-C(O)N(H)-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl)<sub>m</sub>;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-C(O)N(H)-(1- to 8-membered heteroalkylenyl)<sub>m</sub>;  
H<sub>2</sub>NS(O)<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-N(H)S(O)<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl)<sub>m</sub>;

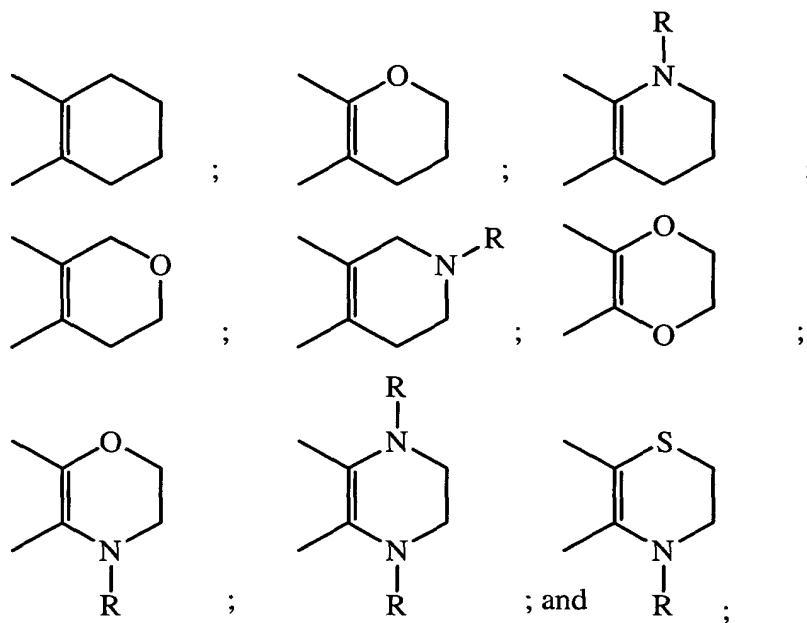
10 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)<sub>2</sub>-NS(O)<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl)<sub>m</sub>;  
3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(G)<sub>m</sub>;  
Substituted 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(G)<sub>m</sub>;  
5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(G)<sub>m</sub>;  
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(G)<sub>m</sub>;

15 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-S(O)<sub>2</sub>-N(H)-C(O)-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl)<sub>m</sub>; and  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-C(O)-N(H)-S(O)<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl)<sub>m</sub>;  
wherein each substituent on a carbon atom may further be  
independently selected from:  
Halo; and

20 HO<sub>2</sub>C;

wherein 2 substituents may be taken together with a carbon atom to which  
they are both bonded to form the group C=O;  
wherein two adjacent, substantially sp<sup>2</sup> carbon atoms may be taken  
together with a diradical substituent to form a cyclic diradical  
selected from:





R is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

5            G is CH<sub>2</sub>; O, S, S(O); or S(O)<sub>2</sub>;

Each m is an integer of 0 or 1;

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently selected from the groups:

H;

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

10            Substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl;

Substituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl;

C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl;

Substituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl;

15            C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl;

Substituted C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl;

C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Phenyl;

20            Substituted phenyl;

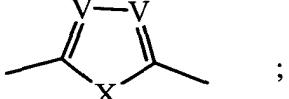
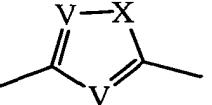
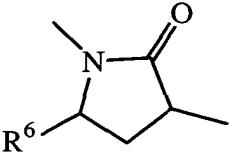
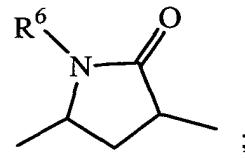
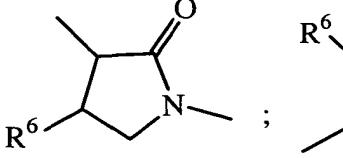
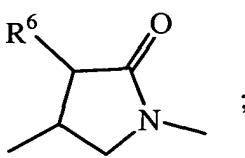
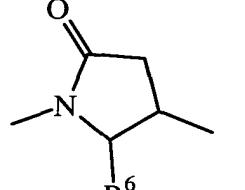
Phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Substituted phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);

Naphthyl;

Substituted Naphthyl;  
Naphthyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylene);  
Substituted naphthyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylene);  
3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl;  
5 Substituted 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl;  
3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylene);  
Substituted 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylene)  
HO;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-O;  
10 H<sub>2</sub>N;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-N(H);  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)<sub>2</sub>-N;  
Each substituted R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> group contains from 1 to 4 substituents, each  
independently on a carbon or nitrogen atom, independently  
selected from:  
15 H<sub>2</sub>N;  
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;  
CN;  
CF<sub>3</sub>;  
20 (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-OC(O);  
HO;  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-O;  
HS; and  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-S;  
25 wherein each substituent on a carbon atom may further be  
independently selected from:  
Halo; and  
HO<sub>2</sub>C;  
wherein 2 substituents may be taken together with a carbon atom to which  
they are both bonded to form the group C=O;  
30 R<sup>5</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, H<sub>2</sub>N, HO, or halo;  
n is an integer of from 0 to 3;  
Q is selected from:

OC(O);  
 CH(R<sup>6</sup>)C(O);  
 OC(NR<sup>6</sup>);  
 CH(R<sup>6</sup>)C(NR<sup>6</sup>);  
 5 N(R<sup>6</sup>)C(O);  
 N(R<sup>6</sup>)C(S);  
 N(R<sup>6</sup>)C(NR<sup>6</sup>);  
 N(R<sup>6</sup>)CH<sub>2</sub>;  
 SC(O);  
 10 CH(R<sup>6</sup>)C(S);  
 SC(NR<sup>6</sup>);  
 trans-(H)C=C(H);  
 cis-(H)C=C(H);  
 C≡C;  
 15 CH<sub>2</sub>C≡C;  
 C≡CCH<sub>2</sub>;  
 CF<sub>2</sub>C≡C; and  
 C≡CCF<sub>2</sub>;

 ;  
 ;  
 ;  
 ;  
 ;  
 ; and  ;

20

$R^6$  is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl; 3- to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl; phenyl; benzyl; or 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl;  
 X is O, S, N(H), or N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl);  
 Each V is independently C(H) or N;

25

Y is C(=O), CH<sub>2</sub>; C(H)(R<sup>7</sup>), C(R<sup>7</sup>)<sub>2</sub>; O; S; S(O); or S(O)<sub>2</sub>;

Each R<sup>7</sup> is independently C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, H<sub>2</sub>N; HO; or halo;

---- means a bond which is optionally present or absent;

W<sup>1</sup> is independently N-R<sup>5</sup> or C(H)R<sup>5</sup> when ---- is absent, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is as defined above;

5

W<sup>1</sup> is independently N or C-R<sup>5</sup> when ---- is a bond, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is as defined above;

Each W<sup>2</sup>, W<sup>3</sup>, and W<sup>4</sup> is independently N or C-R<sup>5</sup>, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is as defined above;

10

wherein at least 1 of W<sup>1</sup>, W<sup>2</sup>, W<sup>3</sup>, and W<sup>4</sup> is N;

wherein each C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> bicycloalkyl is a bicyclic carbocyclic ring that contains 8-, 9-, or 10-member carbon atoms which are 5,5-fused, 6,5-fused, or 6,6-fused bicyclic rings, respectively, and wherein the ring is saturated or optionally contains one carbon-carbon double bond;

15

wherein each 8- to 10-membered heterobicycloalkyl is a bicyclic ring that contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 2 O, 1 S, 1 S(O), 1 S(O)<sub>2</sub>, 1 N, 4 N(H), and 4 N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), and wherein when two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are present, the two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are not bonded to each other, and wherein the ring is saturated or optionally contains one carbon-carbon or carbon-nitrogen double bond, and wherein the heterobicycloalkyl is a 5,5-fused, 6,5-fused, or 6,6-fused bicyclic ring, respectively,

20

wherein each heterocycloalkyl is a ring that contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 2 O, 1 S, 1 S(O), 1 S(O)<sub>2</sub>, 1 N, 4 N(H), and 4 N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), and wherein when two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are present, the two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are not bonded to each other, and wherein the ring is saturated or optionally contains one carbon-carbon or carbon-nitrogen double bond;

25

wherein each heterocycloalkyl is a ring that contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 2 O, 1 S, 1 S(O), 1 S(O)<sub>2</sub>, 1 N, 4 N(H), and 4 N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), and wherein when two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are present, the two O atoms or one O atom and one S atom are not bonded to each other, and wherein the ring is saturated or optionally contains one carbon-carbon or carbon-nitrogen double bond;

30

wherein each 5-membered heteroaryl contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 1 O, 1 S, 1 N(H), 1

N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), and 4 N, and each 6-membered heteroaryl contains carbon atoms and 1 or 2 heteroatoms independently selected from N, N(H), and N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), and 5- and 6-membered heteroaryl are monocyclic rings;

5

wherein each heterobiaryl contains carbon atoms and from 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from 1 O, 1 S, 1 N(H), 1 N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), and 4 N, and where the 8-, 9-, and 10-membered

10

heterobiaryl are 5,5-fused, 6,5-fused, and 6,6-fused bicyclic rings, respectively, and wherein at least 1 of the 2 fused rings of a bicyclic ring is aromatic, and wherein when the O and S atoms both are present, the O and S atoms are not bonded to each other; wherein with any (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)<sub>2</sub>-N group, the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl groups may be

15

optionally taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl;

wherein each group and each substituent recited above is independently selected; and

20

wherein the compound named 4-[1-oxo-7-(3-[1,2,3]triazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1H-isoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid is excluded.

25

2. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y is C(=O) or CH<sub>2</sub>.

30

3. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Y is O, S, S(O), or S(O)<sub>2</sub>.

4. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Q is N(R<sup>6</sup>)C(O).

5. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Q is C≡C, CH<sub>2</sub>C≡C, C≡CCH<sub>2</sub>, CF<sub>2</sub>C≡C, or C≡CCF<sub>2</sub>.

6. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein W<sup>3</sup> or W<sup>4</sup> is N and Q is N(H)C(O).

7. The compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are independently selected from:  
5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);  
Substituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);  
8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);  
Substituted 8- to 10-membered heterobiaryl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl);  
10 Phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl); and  
Substituted phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkylenyl).

8. The compound according to Claim 1, selected from:  
4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-3-azaisoquinolin-2-  
15 ylmethyl]benzoic acid tert-butyl ester;  
4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-3-azaisoquinolin-2-  
ylmethyl]benzoic acid;  
2-(3,5-Difluoro-4-hydroxybenzyl)-7-[3-(4H-[1,2,3]triazol-4-yl)prop-1-  
20 ynyl]-2H-3-azaisoquinolin-1-one;  
7-(3-Phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-2-(4-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-2H-5-  
azaisoquinolin-1-one;  
2-(3-Fluorobenzyl)-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-2H-5-azaisoquinolin-1-one;  
25 4-[7-(3-Imidazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1-oxo-1H-5-azaisoquinolin-2-  
ylmethyl]benzoic acid tert-butyl ester;  
4-[7-(3-Imidazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1-oxo-1H-5-azaisoquinolin-2-  
ylmethyl]benzoic acid;  
3-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-6-azaisoquinolin-2-  
30 ylmethyl]benzonitrile;  
4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-6-azaisoquinolin-2-  
ylmethyl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-[1,2,3]triazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1H-6-azaisoquinolin-2-  
ylmethyl]benzoic acid tert-butyl ester;

4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-[1,2,3]triazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1H-6-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid;

4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-8-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid methyl ester;

5 3-[1-Oxo-7-(3-phenyl-prop-1-ynyl)-1H-8-azaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid methyl ester;

2-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-7-3-phenylprop-1-ynyl-2H-3,5-diazaisoquinolin-1-one;

7-(3-Phenylprop-1-ynyl)-2-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-2H-3,6-diazaisoquinolin-1-one;

10 2-(3-Chlorobenzyl)-7-(3-phenylprop-1-ynyl)-2H-3,8-diazaisoquinolin-1-one;

2-(3,4-Difluorobenzyl)-7-(3-phenylprop-1-ynyl)-2H-5,8-diazaisoquinolin-1-one; and

15 4-[1-Oxo-7-(3-[1,2,4]triazol-1-ylprop-1-ynyl)-1H-3,5,8-triazaisoquinolin-2-ylmethyl]benzoic acid tert-butyl ester; or  
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a compound according to  
20 Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, admixed with a  
pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent.

10. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 9, comprising a  
compound according to Claim 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt  
25 thereof, admixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or  
diluent.

11. A method for treating osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis, comprising  
administering to a patient suffering from osteoarthritis a nontoxic effective  
30 amount of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically  
acceptable salt thereof.

12. The method according to Claim 11, wherein the compound administered is a compound according to Claim 8, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.